surprise, their victory occasioned Mussolini, was indicated by the manner in which he announced it in Rome. No more momentous or splendid happening, he exulted, had been heard of even in that city, which in its long history had been the scene of so much that was momentous and splendid; Caesar's triumphs were trifles, and St. Peter's martyrdom insignificant compared with the Italian conquest of Abyssinia.

The League was left with sanctions on its hands; and, even with Mr. Eden in charge of British foreign policy, they soon became as embarrassing and unpalatable as yesterday's sardines. What they were to prevent had come to pass; and though this could scarcely be said to provide a reason for calling them off, it equally made their continuance seem rather pointless. They lingered on, few remembering their existence, causing, it was said, a certain shortage of lemons in Covent Garden, until they were finally extinguished by Mr, Neville Chamberlain, who referred to them as 'the very midsummer of madness'. It was his first pronouncement upon foreign affairs, suitably marked by a misquotation; the prelude to an astonishing performance in that field.

Besides sanctions, the League had also to dispose of Abyssinia, whose delegate persisted in putting in an appearance at Assembly meetings. His credentials could scarcely be challenged in the circumstances; yet as the Government he represented no more existed, its representation created difficulties, especially as the Power responsible for its non-existence remained a League member. The awkwardness of this situation was

intensified when Haile Selassie appeared in person at Geneva, a reproach to his disconcerted defenders; a Dead Soul, with only a paper or Covenant existence; a monarch who had lost his kingdom, but retained his right to participate in the League's deliberations.

Even this poor remainder of his former glory, he soon also lost, vanishing into retirement at Bath, where he lived secluded and alone. Lord Halifax proposed, and the others agreed, that Abyssinia should henceforth be regarded as non-existent in the capacity of Sovereign State.